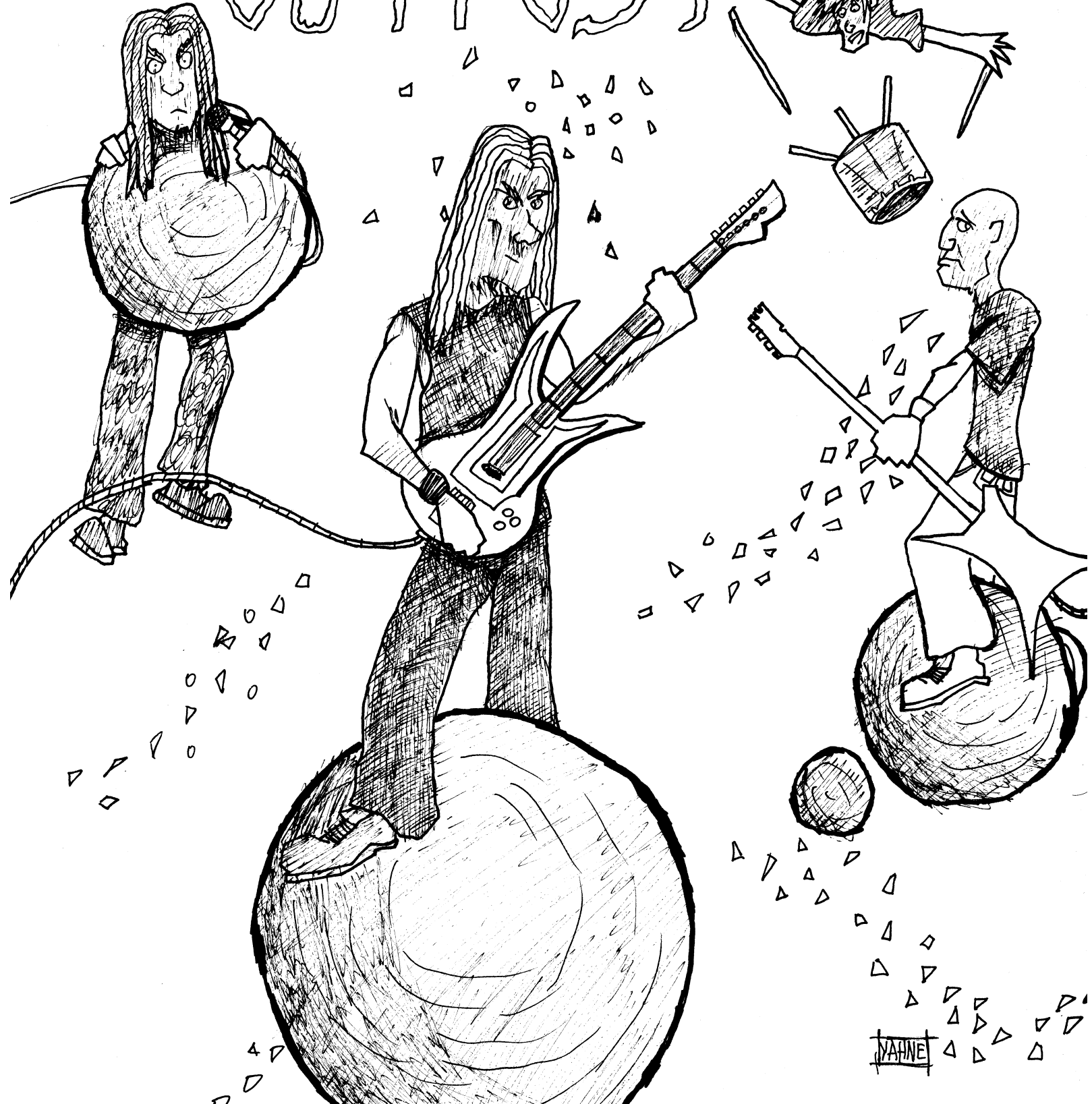


the

CENTURION OUTPOST



Centurion Outpost October 2005 Issue # 9

Table of Contents

1. Mission Statement and Band Info
2. Staff Bios and Contact
3. Metal News
4. Band Spotlight-Antidemon
5. Against the Grain Interview page 1
6. Against the Grain Interview page 2

CD Reviews

7. Antidemon-Demonocidio
8. Skymetal-Sepultura
9. Franks Enemy-Illumination
10. Dark Lay Still-Joy in the Throes of Agony
11. Sinai Beach-When Breath Escapes
12. Bloody Sunday-To Sentence the Dead
13. Indwelling-And My Eyes Shall Weep

Articles and a lot of fun stuff

14. Why I am In the Scene by Phil Diez
15. Why I am In the Scene continued
16. Why I am In the Scene continued
- 17-20 The Official 101 Rules of Unblack Metal by Dan Terry and Todd Pope
- 21 and 22 Salvation Prayer
23. Grave Forskaen Poster
- 24- 1000000000 Thin AIR!!!!!!

Mission Statement

**The Centurion Outpost is a Christian Music magazine that focuses mostly on bands that like to use their music as a ministry to win souls to God. We basically want bands that have a ministry to get some exposure. We cover bands from genres such as Metal, Death Metal, Power Metal, Black Metal, Thrash Metal, Speed Metal, Grindcore, Metalcore, Hardcore, Punk, Street Punk, Hardcore Punk, and even some occasional Hard Rock. As you can see we really like our metal, so you can expect coverage of mostly metal bands. This does not make us an official metal magazine but we will cover ALOT of metal bands so if you like metal, you've come to the right place. If you want to subscribe just visit www.freewebs.com/centurionoutpost for instructions or email Dan at criesfrommypast@hotmail.com or centurionoutpost@gmail.com . Oh yeah, and MORE METAL FOR YOUR MUFFIN.
-Dan, Mike, and Joe**

Want Your Bands' CD reviewed in the magazine?

If you want your band to be covered in Centurion Outpost, you can send us your demo or album at 5858 Barberry Drive, Imperial MO, 63052. If you do send us a CD or demo, please include full lyrics to the songs. I will not review anything that I have not read lyrics to. If your lyrics are printed on your website then feel free to just email me the link. We have a reputation for reviewing every CD or tape sent to us (if of course it meets the above requirements). If you would like to be interviewed in the magazine just email Dan and we'll set something up. God Bless.

Staff Bios and Contact

Dan Terry: Editor in Chief, CD Reviewer, Interviewer, CO Radio Host

I'm a 19-year-old college student currently enrolled at ITT Tech. I love metal, especially underground metal. I started this magazine in January of 2005 and have been working like a dog trying to get it off the ground. I do most of the Album Reviews, Interviews, Articles, and occasionally some artwork.

Michael Yahne: Art Designer, Co host for CO Radio, CO Short Story Manager.

I'm a 20-year-old college student currently enrolled at Jefferson College. I do most of the artwork for Centurion Outpost. I love metal, hardcore, folk, street punk, dark ambience, and rock.

Joe Wren: Audio Technician, Co Host for Centurion Outpost Radio.

I'm a 20-year-old college student currently enrolled in Jefferson College. I do the sound setups for the radio show and also co-host it. I love music in general regardless of style, if it's good, I'll give it a shot. I also play guitar for the bands Zombie Devourment, Conspiracy of the Padded Walls, and The Weapons of Mass Destruction.

We would love to hear from you if we get enough letters and emails we can start printing them in the magazine. We will try and read each and every email and reply to them as fast as possible.

Michael: mike17@ix.netcom.com

Dan: criesfrommypast@hotmail.com

Joe: wrendogg@gmail.com

If you want to write us a letter instead of email us then you can write us at Centurion Outpost 5858 Barberry Drive Imperial MO, 63052

Christian Metal News for October 2005

Australian Metal band Mortification has an official October update

Steve, Mick and Damien are hard at work on "Erasing the Goblin". A good combo of fast and slow Death Metal with a few surprises as usual. The album is certainly developing into a monster. Very Jesus centered lyrics as usual. It will be a good album to give to your non-Christian friends. If you are not a Christian then "Erasing..." will be a good challenge for you to consider lyrically.

Thanks to Soundmass the classic "Grind Planets" video will be re-issued on DVD later this month. Featuring 8 professional film clips from the 91-92 era, plus on tour craziness, the making of "Scrolls of the Megilloth", plus a bonus full live concert from '92.

Grave Forsaken has begun work on their yet untitled Debut full-length album. Expect some intense thrash metal with some death metal elements.

Cold Fusion Music is scheduled to release Awaken by Century Sleeper sometime in November. Cold Fusion also has put out albums by Visionare and Ashen Mortality.

Doug Farrar will be revealing details on the US Death metal and Grindcore compilation called Grinding Spiritual Death, expect the most brutal bands the US has to offer. You can contact Doug via the Centurion Outpost message boards.

If you would like to submit news, just send Dan an email with the subject as News.

October Band of the Month: ANTIDEMON!!!!!!



Antidemon is a Christian death/grind metal band from the country of Brazil. They pack a brutal punch with their hybrid of death metal, grindcore, and hardcore. They are even known to break out a punk song from time to time. With vocals that will kill you and a strong ministry for Christ to boot, Antidemon is one of the hardest working bands from Brazil, having toured all over South America, Mexico, and even in Europe. They have released two albums and two demos in the last ten years. You can find out then extensive band history at www.antidemon.cjb.net .



October Band Interview with Against the Grain

Yet another one of Dan's email interviews, just goes to show you how lazy Dan actually is, considering these guys live just a few miles from him. Enjoy.

Dan: Who are you and what do you do in ATG?

Adam: I am Adam, the lead singer of the band.

Dan: What do you feel is the purpose or goal of the band?

Adam: The purpose of the band is to take the message of Jesus Christ put it into music and testimony and share it with anyone and everyone. We want everyone to know that whatever you are going through whatever you have done there is someone there for you. We want people to know you are not alone. We want people to know that they are loved. We use our style of music to reach people with our message that might not be reached on a Sunday morning.

Dan: Do you feel like the message is well received?

Adam: I think our message is being received pretty well. God has anointed this band and we just continue to keep trying to do his will.

Dan: Who are some of your influences?

Adam: As a band we each have many different influences, go to www.atggodrock.com and check each of us out to see our influences.

Dan: How would you describe your sound to somebody who has never heard you before?

Adam: I think we are a rock/metal band with straight-forward lyrics. I think we have a sound all our own.

Dan: Your Demo CD had great sound quality, what studio was it recorded in?

Adam: We recorded our demo CD in Normal, IL at Eclipse Studio's. Eric Nelson the owner did the mixing. He is great!

Dan: What equipment do you use?

Adam: I use AKG mics, Joe the lead guitarist plays a Les Paul Custom and uses a Peavey 5150 head and cab, and Alesis effects. Ron our bass player, plays an Ibanez sound gear bass and uses fender amps, Casey our drummer plays Cb Drums.

Dan: What Christian or Secular bands have you been listening to lately?

Adam: I have been listening to Barren Cross, Shine Down, Breaking Benjamin, Keane, Kutless, Chris Thomlin, Third Day, Dc Talk, those are just a few.

Dan: What are the bands' future plans?

Adam: Our future...just to keep playing shows, and sharing the word of God and seeing where that takes us. We are still trying to figure our place out in the Christian rock scene.

Dan: Have you considered touring?

Adam: We would love to tour if the opportunity would present its self.

Dan: How important do you think it is for bands to have God focused lyrics?

Adam: I think God focused lyrics have to be a calling. We feel we have been called by God to write about what we write about. Not everyone has that calling. maybe bands that don't have God focused lyrics can play places we can't or don't want to. We are all part of Gods plan not our own!

Dan: Do you think the Christian scene is lacking in old school heavy metal bands?

Adam: YES!!! If there was, I wouldn't be listening to all the secular music I listen to!

Dan: If you could pick any bands to go on a fantasy tour with, who would it be?

Adam: We would pick Third Day! They have been a big influence on most of the lives in the band. Kutless would be fun.

Dan: What are your favorite types of muffins?

Adam: What are my favorite type of muffins...I would have to say Banana Nut!

Dan: Any closing comments?

Adam: We feel as a band that God is in control of what we play and what we write and how we live. We are normal guys, loving Jesus, trying to be the best band we can be. Our music is from our heart and our soul. We are not a sell out. So if you want a band with God focused lyrics, we are your band and we won't disappoint you. Dan, thank you for the opportunity to do the interview. And thanks for getting us out there so people can see the kind of guys we are.

For more info about Against the Grain go to www.atggodrock.com

Antidemon-Demonocido

Released-1999

Label-Extreme Records

Style-Death/Grind

Antidemon is one of, if not the most popular Christian metal band from the country of Brazil. Unlike most of the bands from that country, Antidemon has a quality about them that cannot be rivaled. Maybe it's their good production, their insane style of vocals, or the fact that the drummer is a very nice looking young woman. Either way they have created one fine debut album that this reviewer has been a bit late in obtaining.

Antidemon plays grindcore with a lot of death metal influences thrown in there. Their guitars are fast and ferocious with some nice deep chugging going on. They pound at you with a ton of heaviness that will make you cringe. One thing I really enjoy is the clean mix though, the guitar creates a nice crunch but doesn't overpower the vocals, drums and bass. The whole guitar package is amazing. I hear a lot of punk influence in the riffing and song structures. Some people refer to Antidemon as death punk. Whatever you wanna call it, its definitely heavy. The bass rumbles and can actually be heard providing it with a lot of nice low end. The drumming isn't the most complex thing in the world, but can still be very brutal. There is not as much double bass and blastbeats present as on most death/grind releases, but I think this is the punk influence in the band that makes it different than the rest of the pack. The production value helps this release I think that this is what sets them apart from the other bands in Brazil. The mixing is brilliantly done and all the instruments are crystal clear. I wish the vocals were in English but then again they aren't going to go back and re record the whole album just for me are they? The point I was trying to make is that I don't know how easy the vocals are to understand considering I don't speak their language. The vocals are one of the defining characteristics of Antidemon. They have a very deep and almost belchy sound to them, but they flow really well and are just awesome. Sometimes there will be some cool backup screaming to be found check the song Suicide to see what I mean.

Lyrically Antidemon isn't as focused on killing evil as you may think. They are very Christ centered lyrics, but it seems that the demons being killed on this CD are the inner and personal demons that people have through alcohol, drugs, suicide, and hatred. Not to say that there isn't plenty of Satan bashing to be had though. You can read the lyrics to all of their CD's at their website at www.antidemon.cjb.net . This CD is definitely a good buy if you can find it. It has 27 songs on it, yes 27 tracks and clocks in at one hour and three minutes. Some of the songs are five minutes long, yet others are six seconds!!!!!! This is definitely a great disc by a great band.

Reviewed by Dan.

Skymetal-Sepultura

Released-2002

Label-Extreme Records

Style-Death/Grind

Lately I seem to have developed a strong liking for foreign death metal and grindcore bands. Skymetal is another death metal band from South American signed to Brazil's Extreme Records. I think overall that the South American Christian metal scene is getting better and better production wise. I have heard Skymetal's old album Apocalypse, but wasn't too impressed by it. I recently obtained a copy of this new one Sepultura and was pretty much blown away.

Starting off, Sepultura is already faster, heavier, and generally more insane than Apocalypse ever was. The guitars are very crunchy and heavy. The riffs go from fast chunking and speeding, to more of a mid paced slow heavy plodding. The guitars have little to no mess ups, and are played with great skill. They even give us a few solos to chew on. The bass is rumbling and gives a nice punch to the overall blasting effect. The drumming is nice and brutal with plenty of blast beats and double bass for everyone to enjoy. The vocals have that distinct South American Death metal sound to them. Some people like to describe them as belch vocals. They are very comparable to Antidemon who I have been obsessing over this whole issue. Skymetal's music is a great blend of blasting and slower more technical passages. One minute the music will be slow and plodding, but then the double bass will kick in, and then everything will speed up with the vocalist going as million miles an hour trying to keep up with the ferocious pace of the music. The music also has many technical moments too. Some of the song intros are slow and downright creepy too. The record on a whole is very symmetrical and straight forward. It never really erupts into total chaos or anything, which is a nice relief since so many grind influenced bands tend to go off time and really just create a mess of noise. Musically Skymetal is on the right track. The music could stand to be a tad more brutal than it is, but that will come in time.

Lyrically Skymetal is a ministry-based band that compromises nothing in their lyrics. They focus on Christ and the importance of salvation. There is a tad of Satan bashing to be found, but this is not the focus of the album at all. All the lyrics are in Portuguese, or at least I think they are, I'm not sure, all I now is that I had to run them through an internet translator to understand them. Their website is also in Portuguese with no translation, which kind of bothers me because so many more people could be interested in their music if it was more accessible. The CD has ten songs and an intro track, but the whole product clocks in at 44 minutes overall. Not a bad time in a day and age where most albums put out are a measly twenty for thirty minutes long. This one is a bit more for the trad death metal heads than the grind minds.

Reviewed by Dan.

Franks Enemy-Illumination

Released-1999

Label-NA

Style-Grindcore mixed with any genre you can imagine

Um.....wow. That's all I can really say about this CD. Its not necessarily good, and its not really bad, its terrible and wonderful, it's sick and twisted and makes almost no sense at all. Yet I love it, I love every second of it. So imagine you buy this CD and take it home. You've heard from your friends that Franks Enemy plays grindcore. You like grindcore right? You love it, its what makes your little world go around and around. Well you pop in the CD and to your surprise it begins with a SKA INTRO? That's right kids, it's a funky ska almost reggae tune of introduction. You start thinking to yourself that somebody has ripped you off big time. Then suddenly in the midst of the nice ska introduction the song just rips into the most brutal and sick grindcore you've ever heard. Its just insane the guitars are down tuned about as far as humanly possible. So when a chord is played it basically sounds like toxic sludge, yet its sludge being flung at your face at a thousand miles per hour. Is there a bass on this CD? Who cares!!!!!!! The guitars provide all the low end you'll ever need. The drumming is pretty basic, it's ridiculous actually, by basic I mean insanely fast and chaotic. The vocals are pretty much impossible to understand without the lyrics. Although even if you had the lyrics I doubt you'd be able to understand them. The vocals can go from being very high pitched shrieks and squeals to deeper more traditional death metal vocals. Although when the band is experimenting the vocals are occasionally just shouted or whispered, or both..... The song Another Liberation actually has some really really really bad singing. Extremely bad singing, as a matter of fact, I doubt singing could ever actually get worse than this, its ok though because the metal comes back in pretty soon. The song Metro is basically an industrial electronic song. This is really a toss up of nearly every style in the book. There's punk, ska, electronica, grindcore (lots of it too), death metal, thrash metal, and just noise. The last song is kind of a rap song too.

The lyrics are cool, they are extremely sarcastic but they have a good message. Franks Enemy is Christ centered, they are sarcastic towards Astrology and other such teachings. Some standout songs on this little disc of horrors are Codebasher, Metro, Friends in the Sky, and John the Baptist Revisited. The disc has fifteen tracks, and clocks in at fifty-one minutes and thirty seconds. If you're into grindcore I would still warn you to check this out before buying it. If you are one of those people who always walks around saying "I listen to everything" then you should like this, cuz its everything all right, ALL AT THE SAME TIME!!!!!!!!!!!!!! If you're just an all around weirdo like me, you should dig this CD.

Reviewed by Dan.

Dark Lay Still-Joy in the Throes of Agony

Released-2005

Label-None

Style-Black Metal

You like free demos? I know I do, and I know everyone else does too. Well if your interested this demo CD by Dark Lay Still can be downloaded for free off of their myspace page www.myspace.com/darklaystill . Dark Lay Still refers to themselves as a blackened metal band, but I pretty much just hear black metal being played. Anyways, on to the review.

The first song is called Mists driven by storms. The song starts off with a nice atmospheric keyboard piece, until I realized that this was actually the entire song. There is a very deep and distorted voice speaking in the background, but without lyrics I doubt anyone could actually understand him. This song was kind of a let down, since I think that if a band makes a demo CD that the four songs should represent the bands actual sound. Anyway, it is a nice intro overall and sets the mood for what is to come. The second song Kings of Old really represents what Dark Lay Still is really all about. They have very strong keyboards than can clearly be heard all throughout the song. The guitars go at a really really fast black metal pace. There's nothing particularly new here but the song is good, with some really fast blasting drums. The guitar and keyboard match up nicely to make the song sound extremely epic. There is some fast picking to be found here, basically it sounds like any atmospheric black metal band would. The difference though is the low production value on the song makes it a lot more brutal than most bands in this genre. Immortal Beloved is next with a creepy melodic introduction. The keyboards are all over this song. The deep and distorted vocals from the first song are back. I was beginning to think that this was going to be slow all the way through, but toward the middle it brings the black metal back in full force. The normal vocals are a high pitched black metal shriek. The keys once again make the song sound very epic. The last song White Blades Through Black Hearts starts off with another creepy melodic intro but it quickly subsides to more black metal. This song is another very good one. Dark Lay Still is not a bad band at all, they play the style of music very well. It's just that the style of music they play is so over done by so many bands. I will not be shallow and condemn them for that though.

Their lyrics are very Christ centered and God praising. Dark Lay Still has stated on their website that they always wish to remain a Christian band and never veer from the narrow path. Fans of Antestor, Crimson Moonlight, Sorrowstorm, or Drottnar should definitely check this band out. I hear news of a full length coming soon. Also remember this is a free demo, so you might wanna download it while you still can.

Reviewed by Dan.

Sinai Beach-When Breath Escapes

Released-2003

Label-Facedown Records

Style-Metalcore/Hardcore

I always run a reputation risk when I review a CD by a fairly popular band, but in some cases the music and the band is just that good, that I cannot help but print my perspective on it. Sinai Beach is a Christian hardcore band from California.

This album starts off with the song Candice. One thing you'll notice right away is the over the top brutality of the band. They didn't record this in a million dollar studio where computers and equalizers took away all traces of brutality. There is plenty of guitar roaring and some feedback. The build ups are epic and the breakdowns are truly crushing. In the middle of the song you can hear the vocalist start singing, and you'll then notice he actually has an ability to do so, unlike so many hardcore vocalists out there. The guitars on the album are very crunchy and brutal, they provide a punch strong enough to knock you back a few feet. If you listen closely you can hear some slight death metal influences sinking through the cracks. The music isn't overly technical, which I don't think that hardcore is really about being technical. The drumming is fast with some good drum fills and double bass. The vocals have are very well done. The vocalist screams with conviction and passion. His singing voice is also very nice without any kind of emo influence. The singing is only done every once in awhile. Don't expect any clean sung choruses or anything like that. The production value is low, but like I said before it really just adds to the brutality of the band.

The lyrics are very special and very convicting. In a day and age where most hardcore and metalcore bands are just trying to be part of the scene. Sinai Beach stands up for Christ. The lyrics cover topics such as sexual abuse, lying, cursing, and disbelief. One song even states "Mankind thinks he knows all I guess it get easier to understand when you make things up". Dealing with the theories of mankind. My biggest gripe with this album is the length. The CD clocks in at 30 minutes exactly. I've heard demos that lasted longer than that. Overall though this is a very easy CD to find. If you are into hardcore or know anybody who is, this CD would be a good addition to your collection.

Reviewed by Dan.

Bloody Sunday-To Sentence the Dead
Released-2005
Label-Facedown Records
Style-Hardcore

Ahh Bloody Sunday, I remember these guys from last year when they put out an 18 minute debut album on Strikefirst records. I remember feeling so ripped off by the store I bought this from, but realized that they probably had no idea. I am happy to report that their second album To Sentence the Dead is not eighteen minutes long, it's not much longer though clocking in at 29 minutes.

Bloody Sunday plays the long forgotten style of spirit filled hardcore. Their type of hardcore focuses a lot more on speed and energy than on technicality or complexity. The music I guess could be best described as metal tinged hardcore, the speed and aggression of old speed metal is there, but then again it is very punk influenced. It depends on who you ask really. The drumming has to pretty much keep up a lot of double bass in order to keep up to pace with the music. The breakdowns are as brutal as ever. The vocals actually add to the music a lot by bringing out some refreshing melodies, the way the vocalist structures words is very catchy and memorable. I discovered a few months ago that their previous vocalist had left the band and now their guitar play does the vocals. The interesting thing, is that I honestly cannot tell the difference between the two. The vocals are kind of a horse yell, they are really cool, but they sound like they would be painful to do. There is some screaming too, since this is hardcore, there are a lot of sweet gang vocals in the background. Musically there isn't a whole to say. This release sounds pretty much like their last release only there's more of it. The production value is very good and makes the CD sound really good in my car.

Lyricaly Bloody Sunday really shines. They focus on so many aspects on one short record. The overall theme here is unity and brotherhood. The opening song states There's Nothing Relative about Family. Some songs deal with topics such as evolution, forgiveness, anger, love, and loss. They stress a certain sense of honor in their lyrics. This attitude has been growing in the Christian hardcore scene lately, where the more spirit filled bands feel that they need to start cleaning things up. Like I said in my review for their last album. I really like how the band writes lyrics that will benefit everyone whether they are Christians or not. The wide range of topics is beneficial to whatever situation you are currently going through, while they still point people in the direction of Christ. Overall this is a great hardcore release and is highly recommended.

Reviewed by Dan.

Indwelling-And My Eyes Shall Weep

Released-2002

Label-Facedown Records

Style-Brutal Death Metal

In the year 2000 one of the greatest Christian hardcore bands Overcome decided to call it quits. But three of their members decided to keep making music. The kind of music they made was not hardcore, but was in fact brutal death metal. That brutal death metal was what later came to be known as Indwelling. Indwelling was probably the only death metal band on Facedown records, and I was sad to discover their recent breakup. Don't be too sad though, considering they recorded this fine piece of brutality for us all to eat up.

Indwelling is brutal, not just brutal they are really brutal. If you remember my definition of brutal from the January issue, it definitely applies here. The guitars are down tuned to the point of no return. The riffs are quite chaotic, but a closer look reveals that they are in fact extremely technical and complex. The album has a strong focus on technicality. I would have liked to hear more straight chugging for a few moments. That's ok though, the level of musicianship is very high here. A few songs begin with creepy melodic intros. The drumming is very brutal, the drums were recorded very well indeed, because they are deep and pounding and very easy to hear. The drumming is done very well and precisely without any sloppiness. The vocals are about as deep as they come, they are so deep in fact that sometimes they sound like a frightening whisper coming from some dark crypt somewhere. There is a little bit of high pitched shrieking to be found here too. I have this complaint with every album I hear, and that is the length, in my opinion, a full length album should be more than 30 minutes long. It is a good thirty minutes. The only thing that hurts these songs though is the lack of anything memorable.

The lyrics are some of the most heartfelt to be found. The song And My Eyes Shall Weep talks about the strong emotion felt for a new believer when they first accept Christ, and the joy that is brought into our hearts knowing that we now have another brother or sister who we'll be spending eternity with. The lyrics deal with more negative things too though. They talk about topics such as sin, false teachings, and the need for salvation. It really is a shame that this band broke up because I feel that another album would have made them metal masters. The last time I saw this CD online was on the Facedown Records store where It can be ordered for like seven dollars. A pretty good deal I'd say. Get it while it lasts.
Reviewed by Dan.

Why I Am in the Scene

By Phil Diez

At this moment, I have to seriously worry about the state of the scene that I have been working so hard to set up and unite, with other people who are like-minded in this aspect. I know this may be a re-hashed discussion, but I want to throw some stuff on the table and make a meal out of it. In other words, I just want this post to get us to think about what music we are listening to, what bands we buy, who we are supporting, and what IS this whole.....Christian metal thing?

As many of you probably know, I was plugged into the steps of Christ because of Christian metal, some time in 1997. This is exactly why I am in this scene in the first place. Not because I want to be entertained or because one day I am here and the next day you see me at a rave party, completely changed. I'm not here because I want to make money. I'm not here because I want people to wear my shirts and buy my CDs so I can brag....and then become secular so I can brag more. I am not here to fool around or waste my time or anyone's time.

I am here to stay and to serve. And because I am here to stay, I believe that I have the right to speak my mind about things in a safer environment than others, especially in this message board. I chose this one wisely.

I have had a constant mission statement with my bands and the general mission I have with ministry, which is this:

"To bring people closer to Christ through metal music."

That, I believe, is the core and base of what our scene should be like. If anyone has a better idea or if anyone disagrees, please offer a better plan.

However, people tend to stray. How and Why? I don't know. I mess up. We mess up. But this 9 word statement should remain clear and constant. There have been bands that began with great intentions and who were handed to them a great ministry.....only to throw everything away like a delicious new pizza into a garbage can without eating a bite. And we're not only talking solo projects here. We're talking 3, 4, 5, 6 person bands who just.....decided to throw away their ministry. Some may say, "maybe that wasn't their calling." But can we really be sure? What if it was....but they bailed out because it was easier? Way to miss out on a reward upstairs.

I failed College Calculus and had to change my major because of it. But THIS issue is much more difficult to understand for me than College Calculus.

Did the 4 or 5 members just become suddenly brainwashed? Were they meant for ministry? Did they have the right intentions to start with? What were they thinking?

How does a metal band that has been handed a gift, a mission, equipment, a ministry, and maybe a passion, could fall so low as to reject the honor of serving Christ and succumb to something so devious as to using their musical

talents for their own fame, their own glory, and to attract women? (you could just go to the gym for that).

How is it that in third world countries, there are people who have been given a ministry vision and are working tenfold to pursue it, selling whatever excess baggage they have to sell to buy a double bass pedal, working an extra job to buy a bass amp, and generally sacrificing so much more in order to play in shows where there is blasphemy and hatred.....their metal for Christ????? And they succeed and never lose sight of the plan. Look at Antidemon. Boanerges. Crimson thorn (American Example). I would have done anything to be able to play in a metal fest here in the states. I hope Exousia does that sometime, and exalts God on stage.

(By the way, I like America. I just don't like some American "Christian metal" elitist attitudes)

When you have folks in Colombia, Brazil, Mexcio, Paraguay, Peru, whatever, who are complaining to me that their life passion is to have a CHRISTIAN BLACK METAL BAND in their country, who have the heart of Abel and the will of Sampson, but who tell me about their financial issues.....WHILE on the other side, there is a fine bunch of folks who have the opportunity to serve Christ in metal in a rich nation. Yes, a RICH nation which is the USA, who reject it and begin playing self-centered music with great equipment, OR, totally wimp out because someone said, "you're dumb. Christian black metal is an oxymoron," we have a problem. Yes, I've met people who wimp out pretty easily. I understand that. This ministry isn't for everyone. But for the sake of the scene, if this isn't for YOU, then don't taint it.

There are many great sounding and well-produced bands out there who were once an inspiration, but now are NOT Christ-centered. Many Christian distros who dilly dally around and do cartwheels all day thinking that people never change... are selling their music. It's their distro, that's fine. I have no problem with their business model. But the problem I have is... many of us... ARE BUYING THEIR MUSIC!!!!!!!!!!!! and saying, "hey mom, this CD is Christian just because one of the members is Christian and he's the harmonica player who never shows up to practice." "Look, this CD is Christian because it has: THE ANCIENT ONE listed on the thanks list. That's God, right?" WRONG! The Ancient One could be your annoying grandmother if you think about it. Let's not be ashamed of Christ. I have nothing to hide.

I know for a fact that there are many people who play in Christian metal bands who really don't have the heart for this. We're talking front men who are supposedly great Christian examples who have judged other people harshly.....who then totally forget their Christ-centered approach and.....turn self-centered.....BUT THAT'S NOT THE END! People still buy their albums thinking that... just because they act nice and say they are

Christians, that they can win people over to Christ by just.....being themselves and talking to people back stage, while totally taking God off of their interviews, lyrics, CD pamphlets, and websites. Being yourself can backfire at times. We're not perfect, but if we continue to lose focus on Christ, then our metal is going to be tainted, and so will the ministry.

I don't talk about God on some radio interviews or written interviews, but that's because everyone knows Who I stand for. When you begin to question a band's stance on Christianity... that's when the problem starts.

I had a radio interview in Panama about a month ago regarding Encryptor. I didn't mention anything Biblical or God-related. I didn't have to. You don't have to talk about God every single time... but when you erase it totally, that's when the problem starts. I never talk about God in concerts I go to. I simply hang out. But at home...I pray for those who I shared meals with.

And no, just because you erase God doesn't automatically mean that non-Christians will be happy. Some might even think you are... wimping out. "So, what happened (name your band here)? No more Jesus in your lyrics?" "I knew you'd wimp out sooner or later after all the persecution we've been giving you."

Some bands are not very openly Christian, but their mission is very effective! But beware, there are bands who are not openly Christian and, HECK, they don't care about bringing people closer to the Word. I think this is the case with many bands that we are buying, supporting, and listening to.

A friend of mine has a band that isn't Christian. They are more of an entertainment type band. They draw crowds... BUT... their mission is to bring people to Christ, and they do this by attracting people. This is good. Other bands go completely secular and forget about everyone.

Forgetting God is convenient. Then everybody loves you, right??? WRONG. Here's some common sense: If you are a Christian metal band,

- 1. Don't curse during interviews**
- 2. Don't curse in song lyrics**
- 3. Don't curse on stage**
- 4. Don't take pictures while flicking off**
- 5. Don't put a picture on the back of a CD cover of you wearing an offensive t-shirt**
- 6. Be careful. Post a thread like the one I just posted at your own risk. People will talk behind your back.**

It's people's future who we're dealing with. This is important. Think about it. Support the underground. Ignore the Beast, and hang out with people who want the best for the scene. Just because we received the gift of salvation doesn't give us the right to ignore God's calling. Other people count as well.

**Thanks,
Phil**

The Official 101 Rules of Unblack Metal

By Daniel Terry and Todd Pope

Disclaimer: The rules stated below were made by fans of the style of music being joked about. We do not have any disrespect for the style of music at all, we love Unblack metal and wish to continue to support it. We made these rules to have a bit of fun and not to offend anybody. Remember not to actually try anything found on our list unless you have "I did something that I read in a magazine and ended up hurting myself and somebody else as a result of it even though the dude who runs the magazine told me not to do it in the disclaimer I am probably not even reading anyway" insurance. Just remember that God has a sense of humor and that it doesn't hurt to laugh at ourselves. That being said, enjoy the rules.

1. One Word-HORDE.
2. Two Words Key Boards.
3. Solos are not allowed, unless you are Antestor.
4. Just because you wear corpse paint doesn't mean you are a Satanist.
5. Listening to Atmospheric Black Metal is not necessarily gay.
6. Don't be gay (the Bible forbids it).
7. Necro actually means alive.....
8. Ignore the contradiction of the above rule.
9. Anything that is not unblack metal is metalcore.
10. Anything that is all clean singing is emo.
11. Remember that Black Metal can still be Christian, as long as it is referred to as unblack.
12. Unblack-A state of being not black, or metal that is not black metal.
13. Ignore the above contradictions.
14. Remember, even though your music is meant to minister to non-believers, such non-believers must be in fact kvlt enough to obtain it.
15. Be sure to hide your Zao and Norma Jean albums when your friends come over.
16. Your copy of Hellig Usvart must be locked in its fireproof box at all times.
17. Nobody even THOUGHT about Unblack metal before Horde, unless you are Vomoth or Beheadeth.(but they really don't count now do they?)
18. Another word-Nordic.
19. Keyboard drums are not necessarily gay.
20. Before objecting to rule 17, remember that Antestor's first CD was actually doom.
21. You don't listen to doom.
22. Remember, Horde actually has really good production if you really think about it...
23. Remember that without Stryper there would be no unblack.
24. Stryper is not necessarily gay.

25. Don't let your friends catch you listening to Stryper.
26. Remember, your albums must be released by only the following companies Momentum Scandanvia, Endtime Productions, and Fear Dark records.
27. If from Fear Dark, remember that you have no Christian influences in your music as a matter of fact you have no idea what your pre Fear Dark albums were about.
28. Your albums must be exclusively sold through www.nordicmission.net, www.blastbeats.com, and www.soundmass.com.
29. Start your own unblack e zine.
30. Start your own unblack radio show.
31. Start your own unblack messageboard.
32. Never post on your messageboard.
33. Never offer any website translation.
34. Take four years to record your first album, ship it to Christian distros, get a record deal, and then follow up by losing the lyrics to the album.
35. If rule 34 is you, don't worry everyone knows that you have God praising lyrics, despite nobody being able to actually hear them on the album.
36. Death metal is last weeks' news.
37. If you have not received death threats, you are not unblack.
38. If you are unable to show that your biggest influence is Horde through your music, be sure to make your song titles lyrics from Horde songs.
39. Your still waiting for the next Horde album.
40. Your still waiting for the next Lengsel album.
41. No death metal influences are allowed, unless you are Crimson Moonlight.
42. You make sure to send your \$7 in cash in the mail in order to buy all the newest unblack demos.
43. Be sure to listen to these demos exactly never.
44. Calling yourself white metal isn't necessarily gay.
45. Unblack metal and White metal are not the same thing unless you think they are.
46. If you still don't have your own copy of US White Metal Assault, your not unblack.
47. Remember that Chrisitanity is all about killing evil and has nothing to do with love.
48. Be sure to correct anyone who mistakes you for a pagan.
49. If you have a full band together, make sure every member has at least two one man unblack projects.
50. Remember, calling your band Goaticide is not necessarily gay.
51. You love atmospheric bands with tons of clean singing and keys.
52. You completely contradict yourself by hating power metal bands.
53. You are currently listening to US White Metal Assault.
54. You are a regular on the Centurion Outpost message board.
55. Doom influences are not allowed in Unblack metal unless you are Antestor

or Drottnar.

56. Old Underoath is NOT unblack metal(for more info on this see rule 9).
57. You invert any inverted cross you see laying around.
58. Remember that Folk music was never meant to make anyone happy, but in fact it was meant to be sorrow filled.
59. Absolutely no low end is allowed
60. You don't actually need a bass player(see rule 59)
61. You Wear corpse paint to church
62. Everyone in your church wears corpse paint
63. You must either be from Norway, Brazil, or USA. Unless you are Horde
64. Seriously if you don't live in Norway, you need to.
65. Just because Kekal does it, doesn't mean you should
66. Insist that Unblack metal is musically different than all that "secular junk."
67. Ignore the fact that 99% of your influences are secular.
68. You think Aegonoth is a real band.
69. You think that Grim Scepter of Blood has good production.
70. You intentionally record your music in a different room than the mic.
71. You're forming a search party to locate and kidnap Vardoger.
72. Your a closet David Bowie fan.
73. Anything that cannot be classfied in rules 9 and 10 is Prog Metal.
74. If Dr. Drak's solo album is in your top ten you're not unblack..you're just not.
75. Painting HORDE's logo on your guitar is KVLt and encouraged.
76. If you refer to Jayson Sherlock as the king of unBlack.....you might be KVLt.
77. Armageddon Holocaust is not the defining kvlt album.....Hellig Usvart is!
78. Being necro does not mean eating your pets, your neighbors pets or your neighborhood's pets.
79. the lyrics really only need two words: God Rules.
80. Necro actually means alive so remember to ignore that contradiction.
81. If you don't own a BC RICH Warlock....you're not Unblack, you're hardcore or death metal (see rule 9 for more info).
82. Soup is not Unblack.
83. Coffee and Espresso are not Unblack.
84. Sandals are so gay that being seen in them warrants excommunication from all things unblack!
85. Always assume a name that even you cannot pronounce. One like "Elsiphouis Grasshinderer" and pronounce it "El Hideous Grashiner."
86. Unblack logos must never be able to be read.
87. When deciding on a band name you must always find one difficult to pronounce. The harder the word is to say in english the better!
88. A White guitar is okay.if you're in Antestor or Drottnar.

89. Three Words: Lose The Chaps.
90. Meat and Potatoes are acceptable means of fueling you're unblack machine.
91. If you can't understand it at all.....it's probably not music and therefore UnBlack.
92. Dissonance and UnBlack are the same, any relation to melody is not Unblack unless you're in Crimson Moonlight.
93. If you call yourself "thrashters of euphoric goatacide" expect to be ridiculed for it.
94. Everyone knows who your favorite bands are by reading your own rules about unblack metal.
95. You scream Horde before every show at the top of your lungs and make sure everyone within fifty feet notices.
96. You made a list of 101 rules of unblack metal.
97. you're so unBlack your car has a sticker of a corpse peeing on Korn.
98. you have Kvlt tattooed in Hebrew on your forearm.
99. If you think the Transfigural Form track "revenge" is UnBlack, you're mistaken...even Pope says it isn't.
100. You are a member of Kvlt of Necros.
101. You are extremely offended by the above hundred rules.

END

If you are not a Christian and you want to become one, here are some good facts to know.

1. Adam and Eve were the first humans created by God.
 - a. **They could live with God forever because they were innocent.**
 - b. Satan (the devil, Lucifer...etc) tricked Adam and Eve into breaking God's law.
2. Adam and Eve were condemned to death for their sin and cast out of the Garden of Eden to die.
 - a. Since they were sinful, their offspring were sinful.
 - b. We stemmed from Adam and Eve, so we are sinful.
3. God pitied our poor pathetic souls.
 - a. We were born sinful so we are doomed to die from birth.
 - b. In order to pay the debt for sinning, a life is required as payment.
4. God came down and walked as a man as Jesus.
 - a. Jesus was a man but He was also God
 - b. Jesus was not sinful from birth because He was God and did not stem from Adam and Eve.
5. Jesus died and paid the debt for humanity's sin
 - a. Jesus was able to pay the debt for humanity because He was not sinful.
 - b. Since Jesus was God, his death was sufficient payment for all the sins of humanity, past and present.
6. Three days after His death, God raised Jesus from the dead.
 - a. Jesus rose and explained that He was the judge on whether or not we went to Heaven or Hell when we died.
 - b. Jesus holds our salvation in His hands because He paid the debt for our sins.
7. Jesus explained that in order to get to Heaven when you die, you have to believe in Him and acknowledge what He did for you.
 - a. When you accept Him and believe in Him, you will receive His gift of salvation in the form of the Holy Ghost (or Holy Spirit).
 - b. The Holy Ghost is God's/Jesus' spirit dwelling within you.
 - c. When you receive the Holy Ghost, you will be able to enter Heaven and live forever with God when you die.
8. Satan is jealous of God's majesty and is dedicated to destroying all that God creates and loves.

a. This means that Satan hates you (because God loves you). So he will do anything to keep you from getting the Holy Ghost.

b. Satan will do this by trying to make you believe ANYTHING but God's truth.

c. Satan will try and steal as many souls as he can from God, before God returns and destroys him.

9. Christ will return to Earth sometime in the future to destroy the world and take with Him all those who have the Holy Ghost, all the rest will be sent to Hell and live in eternal separation from God.

10. If you want to become a Christian and go to Heaven when you die, pray this prayer.

"Jesus, I ask You to forgive me for my sins and set me free from the powers of the Devil. I want You from this moment on to be Lord in my life and I want You to take away the burdens of my heart. Jesus I believe that You are God and that You died and rose from the dead as Your word (the Bible) says. I believe that You once and for all, totally defeated Death and the Devil. I ask that You receive me as Your child and to save me right now. Thank You Jesus. In Christ's name I pray Amen."

For more information, read the Bible (available at any public library or local church) and check into a local Bible Believing Church. God Bless you on your new life.

-Dan

GRAVE FORSAKEN

